

**THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC**

~ Easter Sunday ~

March 27, 2016

**WELCOME!**

*We're glad you are here. It is our hope that you will encounter God here, experience the love God showed the world in Jesus, and be inspired to share that love with the world.*

<b>PRELUDE</b>	"O Filii et Filiae"	Saxton
	"Prelude on a Latin Easter Hymn"	Wilson
	"Toccata en ré mineur"	Renaud
<b>Bell Choir</b>	"A Joyful Ring"	Kinyon

**EASTER ACCLAMATION**

Leader: HE IS RISEN!

People: HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

All: ALLELUIA!

Leader: CHRIST IS RISEN!

People: CHRIST IS RISEN, INDEED!

All: ALLELUIA!

**WELCOMING the LIGHT of CHRIST** "Trumpet Fanfare"  
Jim Montlick

**\*CALL to WORSHIP** Peg Leary

Leader: We come to this place, seeking Jesus in the familiar story of our faith.

People: **Do not meet us only here, O Living Christ, but surprise us with Resurrection Power in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We gather together to sing and pray the story we know by heart, a story of loving triumph and powerful grace.

People: **This story of "Alleluia!" means great joy for the One who lives and the ones who witness to this new life in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We rejoice and thank you for the life of your son, O God, resurrected by the power of your loving, vibrant Spirit.

People: **Let this same Spirit fill all the places of our lives, that we may know the truth of resurrection for the rest of our lives!**

Leader: We join our hearts in song and sing Christ is Risen, for Christ is living and so are we!

All: **Christ is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

**\*OPENING HYMN** #216 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

**PRAYER of INVOCATION** (*unison*)

**This is the day you have made, O Holy One, and we rejoice! Come. Let the world know you dwell with us. Stir our souls with love and hope, and let our feet dance for joy on your good earth. Open our eyes to the hopes and needs of this planet, and all who share its life. Embolden our hearts to works of justice in your name. Be present to us. Empower us with your resurrection life. Let the world know, through our lives that Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.***

**TIME with the CHILDREN**

**The LORD'S PRAYER** (*unison*)

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

*(All children are invited downstairs for Sunday School.)*

**ANTHEM** "Christ Arose" att. McChesney

**SCRIPTURE** The Gospel of John 20:1-18 (*p. 114*)

**SERMON** "Rise" Rev. Suzanne Personette

**\*HYMN** #226 "He Lives!"

**MORNING PRAYER**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**CALL to OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** "See What a Morning" Getty/Townend

**\*DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**\*PRAYER of DEDICATION** (*unison*)

**Almighty God, by your power you have changed life forever. There is no limit to what you can do. We dedicate this offering and our lives in your service. May we be bearers of eternal life. May all we do and all we have be used to bring new life to our world. May we be an offering of grace in your name. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** #218 "Thine Is the Glory"

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** "Toccata" Dubois

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, because he has anointed us to bring **good news** to the poor. He has sent us to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.*

*~based on Luke 4:18-19*

**\*All who are able are invited to stand.**

**Join us for coffee and conversation after the service in Fellowship Hall.**

**The lilies and daffodils** displayed in the Sanctuary are given by the church family and arranged by the Flower Committee.

**In Our Ongoing Prayers**

**Sharon Dombek; Joyce Smith;** Candy Buswell; Christopher and Davian Lewis (Candy's sister and brother-in-law); Sue Deprospero, recovering; John Arthur (Sue's father); Rita Cima (Dan Cima's grandmother) mourning the loss of her husband after 65 years; Becca, Glory Hockenberry's friend; Michele, daughter of Althea Madigan's cousin, for healing, and prayers for her doctors; Collette, daughter of Sarah Summers, healing from RSV; Brian, 11 years old, fighting bone cancer; Meg (Bill and Holly Boutwell's sister and sister-in-law) on the aggressive return of a tumor; the homeless; the hungry; Linda Vogt, friend of Marilyn Newton, diagnosed with kidney cancer; Linda Rentler; gun reform; acceptance of religious diversity/skin color/sexual orientation; Terri Karr; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Gilmay Markunas and family; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness, and their families; the people of Syria, including the family of Tarek Eid; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle

*New additions in **bold print***

**Bell Choir Members:** Dave Bower, Michelle Bower, Jane Burr, Kate Fowler, Margaret Klukas, Althea Madigan, Joanne Myer

**~ANNOUNCEMENTS~**

*Greet your neighbor with a hug or handshake, whichever is most comfortable for the two of you.*

++In an effort to keep the Sabbath holy, we would like to refrain from talking with church leaders about church business before or after worship. If you need to speak with someone, please contact them late in the day or in the coming week.++

**If you would like to become a member of FCCV**, please speak with Rev. Robin, Rev. Suz or one of our Deacons. We'd like to schedule a New Member Class soon, as well as a New Member Sunday in which we receive new members!

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**

**Bible Study:** Monday, March 28, 11 AM, Library

**Mind and Spirit Support Group:** Monday, March 28, 7 PM, Library

**Men's Breakfast Group:** Tuesday, March 29, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

**Ladies Luncheon:** Tuesday, March 29, noon at Mitchell's Restaurant

**Finance:** Wednesday, March 30, 7:15 PM, Library

**Theology on Tap:** Thursday, March 31, 6 PM, Mitchell's Restaurant

**Choir Rehearsal:** Thursday, March 31, 7:30 PM, Sanctuary

**Support Group:** Friday, April 1, 10:30 AM, Library

**Family Night Out:** Saturday, April 2, 5-9 PM, Fellowship Hall

**Help Needed!** Ten youth, college students and adults are attending the UCC National Youth Event in Florida this summer. This event happens every four years and includes workshops, service projects, a day at Disney and, most importantly, worship with UCC youth from all over our nation and the world! The trip is quite expensive – \$909 per person for plane flight and Conference. We have been fundraising but **we still need help**. If you'd like to donate "in memory" or in "honor" of someone specific, please let Debi Hockenberry know when you write your check. Your name will be included in the bulletin on Youth Sunday in September! Thank you!

**Instrumentalists Wanted** to accompany the choir and/or to play a solo. Anyone interested should contact Choir Director Leanne Connolly at 860-462-4694 or lconnolly1825@gmail.com.

**Scrip-Your-All Help Wanted!** Are you looking for a way to be more involved at FCCV? Consider helping out at the Scrip-Your-All table. Volunteers are needed to man the Scrip-Your-All table during Coffee Hour from 11 AM-noon (once a month or once a quarter - your choice!). You'll be teamed with an experienced Scrip-Your-All volunteer. If interested, stop by the Scrip-Your-All table or contact Kate Fowler at 860-614-9747 or kfowler64@yahoo.com.

The **R. Leslie Childs Memorial Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship awarded each year to an FCCV church member or child of a member to provide assistance with musical training. **Applications must be submitted to the Board of Music no later than April 15.** Questions? Contact any Board of Music member.

**Pairs and Spares:** Saturday, April 16, 4:30-7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. **Paint, Sip, Fun.** Cost - \$30. Paint and create your own work of art. Sign-up online at [paintsipfun.com](http://paintsipfun.com) (click on April 16 and our event). Bring your friends. This event is being extended to older children accompanied by an adult (each can sign up or share a painting).

**FCCV Fun-Filled Festival, Sunday, May 22, 2 PM, Fellowship Hall:** A fundraiser for the Les Childs Scholarship, sponsored by the Board of Music and Leanne Connolly, will offer light snacks and finger foods while our FCCV family and friends present their talents for us to enjoy. Members and friends (all ages), including their talented pets, are invited to share their talents (singing, playing an instrument, reading, telling jokes, dancing, etc.). If you wish to participate or have any questions, please contact Leanne at [lconnolly1825@gmail.com](mailto:lconnolly1825@gmail.com) or 860-462-4694.

The youth will be having a **Tag Sale** on April 23. Donations may be dropped off the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep us in mind while doing your spring cleaning!

Evening Circle is **collecting items for a Center Road family.** Now that winter is behind us, we are requesting more spring-like items. Suggestions are...books, games, art projects, in addition to household items.

**Stephen Ministries Presentation:** Sunday, April 17 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Training will start soon. Many hours of training are required and classes will be scheduled for everyone's convenience. Rev. Joanne Myer will make it easy for you to comply – she will tutor when you can't be there. The Stephen Ministry is biblically based, psychologically sound and based on the Christian belief that GOD is the "curegiver" and we are the "caregivers." For more information, go to [firstchurchofvernon.org/stephen.html](http://firstchurchofvernon.org/stephen.html).

**Needed!** Our shopping carts (located in the Narthex and Breezeway) are running low. Each month Board of Missions members alternate taking non-perishable food to the Soup Kitchen in Rockville and to the Hockanum Valley Community Council. Folks are also need to help prepare meals at the Soup Kitchen. A sign-up sheet is posted in fellowship Hall.

The **Care Network** is offered by the Deacons as a helping hand during difficult times. If you are in need of a ride to church, the doctor, hospital, grocery store, etc., in need of meals or a visit, contact Jan Muro at 872-1757 or [jmoze@hotmail.com](mailto:jmoze@hotmail.com) or Sue Pilkons at 860-875-4122.

**Please Note:** To request a visit with one of the pastors, please contact the Church Office at 860-875-7580.